

Attorney Docket No.: PTQ-0037
Inventors: Van Eyk et al.
Serial No.: 09/934,297
Filing Date: August 21, 2001
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REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 29-56 are pending in the instant application. The Examiner suggests that these claims are directed to the following three patentably distinct species:

- i) species of claim 3;
- ii) species of claim 7; and
- iii) species of claim 34 (35 and 36).

Applicants respectfully traverse this species election requirement.

In accordance with MPEP § 808.01, an election of species should be made when a generic claim recites such a multiplicity of species that an unduly extensive and burdensome search is required. In the instant case, however, the generic claim is not drawn to such a large multiplicity that search of all species would be unduly extensive or burdensome. Only three different species have been set forth by the Examiner. Further, a search of generic claim 1 from which each identified species claim ultimately depends, should reveal any art relating to use of the separation techniques set forth in claims 3, 7 and 34-36. Accordingly, searching of all species set forth by the Examiner does not appear to be burdensome and reconsideration of this

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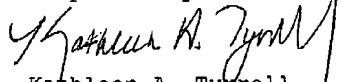
species election requirement is respectfully requested.

However, in an earnest effort to advance the prosecution of this case, Applicants elect iii) species of claim 34 (claims 35 and 36), with traverse. A listing of all claims readable thereon is inclusive of claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, and 29-56.

In accordance with MPEP § 809.01 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.146, it is respectfully pointed out that the claims should only be restricted to this species if no generic claim is held allowable. Further, upon finding the elected species to be allowable, it is Applicants' understanding that the remaining species will be examined.

Applicants believe that the foregoing comprises a full and complete response to the Office Action of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen A. Tyrrell
Registration No. 38,350

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LICATA & TYRRELL P.C.
66 E. Main Street
Marlton, New Jersey 08053

(856) 810-1515